Ames and Crescent Hills Historic District, Springfield
National Register Historic District

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National Register District . . .
Local Historic District . . .

There's a difference!

Quadrangle-Mattoon Street Historic District, Springfield
Local and National Register Historic Districts

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HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

A Division of the
Office of the Massachusetts Secretary of State,
Michael Joseph Connolly, Secretary

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The National Register of Historic Places

is the list of individual buildings, sites, structures, and objects, as well as districts, "important" in American history, culture, architecture, or archaeology. It is a federal designation and is administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the State Historic Preservation Officers.

Listing in the Register:

- recognizes that the area is important to the history of the community, state or nation
- allows the owners of income-producing properties certain federal tax incentives for renovation, and disincentives for demolition
- provides limited protection from adverse effects by federally funded, licensed, or assisted projects
- *in no way limits the owner's use of the property unless federal funding is used. If your property is listed in the National Register you may do anything with it you wish.* Remember, however, that federal tax policy discourages the demolition of historic income-producing property by disallowing the deduction of demolition costs.
- *the district cannot be listed if a majority of district owners submit notarized objections.*

difference . . .

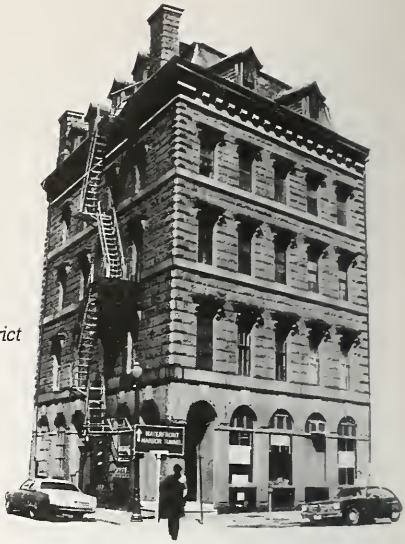
viewpoint, there are
etween owning a property
nal Register Historic District
of a Local Historic District:

Local Historic Districts

are established and administered by your community and have three main purposes: to preserve the unique characteristics of structures and their surroundings within a certain area; to maintain and improve the setting for those structures; and to encourage the builders of new structures in the area to choose architectural designs which complement the historic structures.

Inclusion in a Local Historic District:

- recognizes the property's relationship to an area that has distinctive historical character
- does *not* provide any opportunity for financial support for rehabilitation
- does *not* automatically provide protection from adverse effects caused by federal programs
- provides for the review of proposed *exterior* changes by the Local Historic District Commission. The responsibilities of the Local Historic District Commission to review changes to a property are *locally* determined and are different for each Local Historic District. For more information, your Local Historic District Commission can be reached through Town or City Hall.



Custom House
Historic District, Boston
National Register Historic District

Q. Can a property be designated both as part of a National Register Historic District and as a part of a Local Historic District?

A. Yes. In this case property owners receive all the benefits from the federal listing *and* their property is subject to any local regulations governing historic districts.

Q. Would listing in either district restrict the use or sale of the property?

A. No. Only local zoning ordinances restrict the use of the property.

Q. If my property is in a local historic district, can I paint it any color I want?

A. Each Local Historic District has its own set of rules and regulations. Most do *not* restrict paint color but you should check with the Local Historic District Commission.

If you would like more information on historic district designation, contact either your local historical commission or the Massachusetts Historical Commission, 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108. (617)-727-8470

Office of the Massachusetts Secretary of State
Michael Joseph Connolly, Secretary

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